

State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Drinking Water

November 16, 2017

System No.: 2000561

Mr. Ahmad Alkayhat, P.E.
Madera County Public Works Director
200 W. 4th Street, 3rd Floor
Madera, CA 93637

Dear Mr. Alkayhat,

State Water Resources Control Board Notice Regarding Mandatory Consolidation

Effective June 24, 2015, Section 116680 through 116684 was added to the California Health & Safety Code, addressing consolidation of public water systems.

State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water (Division) records indicate that the water delivered by the Chawanakee Unified School District – North Fork Elementary School's (School) public water system contains arsenic at levels that exceed the maximum contaminant level established in state and federal regulations. Since approximately 2008, the School's water system has consistently failed to provide safe drinking water due to the high arsenic levels. It is the Division's understanding that the Madera County Maintenance District 8A - North Fork's (MD8A) service area is approximately 1.0 mile west of the School.

The Division strongly encourages North Fork Elementary School and Madera County Maintenance District 8A - North Fork to work out a voluntary consolidation of their public water systems. If a voluntary consolidation is not timely achieved, the Division intends to take action pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 116682, subdivision (a) for consolidation of North Fork Elementary School's Water System into Madera County Maintenance District 8A - North Fork's water system. Please note that as used in the applicable statutory authority, the Madera County Maintenance District 8A - North Fork is hereby identified as the potentially receiving water system and the North Fork Elementary School water system is identified as the potentially subsumed water system.

This letter serves as official notification that, pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 116682, subdivision (b)(7)(A), North Fork Elementary School, the potentially subsumed water system, is directed to negotiate consolidation with Madera County Maintenance District 8A - North Fork, the potentially receiving water system. The School is further directed to complete such negotiations and report the outcome to the State Water Board Division of Drinking Water, Merced District Office, not later than six (6) months following the date of this letter.

The State Water Board acknowledges that consolidation is a complex process and stands ready to assist you so that you are successful in delivering safe, affordable and accessible drinking water to the neighboring School in a cost-effective manner. Pursuant to Health & Safety Code Section

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

116682 subdivision (b)(7)(B), during the three month negotiation period, the State Water Board will provide technical assistance and work with Madera County Maintenance District 8A - North Fork and North Fork Elementary School to develop an appropriate financing package, if needed.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Kassy Chauhan, Merced District Engineer for the Division, at (559) 447-3316, or me at (559) 447-3132. For funding related questions, please contact the Division of Financial Assistance at (916) 341-5700.

Sincerely,



Carl L. Carlucci, P.E.
Supervising Sanitary Engineer
Central California Section
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH
DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS

cc: Madera County Environmental Health Department

Mr. Darren Sylvia, Superintendent of Chawanakee Unified School District
P.O. Box 400
North Fork, CA 93643

Mr. David Braun, LAFCO Executive Officer - Madera County Local Area Formation
Commission

Ms. Thongdy Madsen, REHS – Madera County Environmental Health Department

cc:

Jule Rizzardo, P.E.
Office of Sustainable Water Solutions
SWRCB-Division of Financial Assistance
1001 I Street,
Sacramento, CA 95814

Kurt Souza, P.E., Southern California Branch Chief
SWRCB-Division of Drinking Water
1180 Eugenia Place, Suite 200
Carpinteria, CA 93013

Kassy Chauhan, P.E., Merced District Engineer
SWRCB-Division of Drinking Water
265 West Bullard Ave, Suite 101
Fresno, CA 93704

Caitlin Juarez, Southern California Consolidation Coordinator
SWRCB-Division of Drinking Water
265 West Bullard Ave, Suite 101
Fresno, CA 93704